Name: Duc Phan

Class: PHL 191

CRN: 25095

Professor: Martin Wittenberg

**Students Must be Heard**

**Conclusion:**

* Now, more than ever, we must make a priority of allowing students to speak for themselves about the issues that affect them.

**Premises:**

* + P1: It doesn’t take an expert to understand the detrimental effects our current gun regulations, or lack thereof, are having on the health of our community.
  + P2: From a public health standpoint, gun violence has proved an epidemic in our American society to the point that it affects the way our students learn.
  + P3: When students and parents fear for the safety of our schools, it undoubtedly has a negative effect on the success of students and educators alike.

**Strength of Argument:**

I believe that this argument by Kennedy Johnson is not a strong argument. Even though the author did try to support his argument by pointing out why we should follow his ideas, they were not enough to actually enhance his conclusion. First and foremost, his most significant weakness is that he didn’t use any statistics to back up his premises. Thus, in my opinion, that can quickly lead to the fallacy of generalization. Secondly, since he didn’t mention any source, we can’t verify any of his information. Consequently, I believe what he stated out are only his thoughts and opinions instead of firm and credible premises for argument. For example, when he said that “from a public health standpoint,” we don’t know who is exactly the “public” he is mentioning. Therefore, we can’t trust this source completely. Thirdly, he argued that students should be heard, but he didn’t state out which age range they are. It is true that everybody should be heard, but will an elementary school child have enough logic to think about that topic? Moreover, if young children are encouraged to talk about gun more and more, would their mindset will be significantly and negatively influenced? With that said, I believe his arguments are still very weak and neither valid nor sound due to the unconfirmable nature of his premises.